



CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

20 OCTOBER 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Sacramento – Thirty-One Arrested, One Youth Recovered in Prostitution Sting

(U) Sacramento law enforcement arrested 31 people for prostitution-related crimes between 12-14 October, an independent undertaking in the midst of a nationwide sex-trafficking crackdown. Authorities recovered a 17-year-old female sex worker during the operation. Meanwhile, 16 Central Valley law enforcement agencies recovered two minors and arrested a pimp as part of an FBI-backed operation that yielded 84 juvenile recoveries and arrests of 120 traffickers.

SOURCE: 19 October 2017, [Sacramento Bee](#)

(U) NATIONAL

(U) Colorado – Eighty-Four Minors Rescued and 120 Arrested in Sex Trafficking Crackdown

(U) Denver – Two sisters, one 5 years old and the other 3 months old, were rescued in Denver by undercover agents during this year's FBI-led sting operation against sex traffickers. Eighty-two other juvenile minors were rescued during last week's nationwide sweep, which resulted in the arrest of some 120 people. The average age of the victims recovered from this year's operation is 15, according to the FBI. Sellers tried to pimp them to outsiders from hotels, truck stops, or online.

SOURCE: 19 October 2017, [CNN](#)

(U) District of Columbia – ISIS Can Attack US Even After Losing Raqqa, Says CIA Director

(U) Washington – ISIS militants are capable of orchestrating and carrying out an attack against the United States, possibly downing an airplane, even after losing their self-declared Syrian capital of Raqqa, according to CIA director Mike Pompeo. "ISIS' capability to conduct an external operation remains," Pompeo said. Pompeo also stated that Al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula continues to hold this intent, to include aspirations of taking down of a commercial airliner bound for a western country such as the United States.

SOURCE: 19 October 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) Illinois – Chicago-Area Man Gets Maximum Year Term in Terrorism Case

(U) Chicago – A federal judge sentenced 18-year-old Abdella Ahmad Tounisi to a maximum 15-year prison term yesterday for seeking to join terrorist-linked militants fighting Bashar Assad's regime in Syria. The judge said the group Tounisi aspired to join, Jabhat al-Nusrah, was not merely one of many militant organizations seeking to oust Assad, but it is also affiliated with al-Qa'ida. Tounisi, of Aurora, Illinois, was arrested at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport on 19 April 2013, before he could travel to participate in the civil war in Syria.

SOURCE: 19 October 2017, [Associated Press](#)

(U) New York – Ten Gang Members Shipped 6,600 Pounds of Marijuana Worth \$22M to NYC

(U) New York City – Ten members of a Bronx-based drug-trafficking gang have been arrested for allegedly shipping thousands of pounds of marijuana valued at \$22 million from California to New York. More than 6,600 pounds of marijuana was sent from California to residences and businesses in

Manhattan, the Bronx, and New Rochelle, and was then transferred to stash houses for distribution to customers and dealers.

SOURCE: 18 October 2017, [NBC New York](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Germany – Germany Worried About New Generation of ISIS Recruits

(U) Berlin – Germany's domestic intelligence agency (BfV) said yesterday that minors returning from war zones in Syria and Iraq could grow into a new generation of recruits in Germany for ISIS. More than 950 people from Germany went to join ISIS in Syria and Iraq, some 20 percent of them women and five percent minors, according to authorities. With ISIS losing territory in Syria and Iraq, many of the women are expected to return with their children. Germany needs to prepare for the risk of children being radicalized, according to the BfV chief.

SOURCE: 19 October 2017, [Reuters](#)

(U) Lebanon – As ISIS' Role in Syria Wanes, Other Conflicts Take the Stage

(U) Beirut – The defeat of ISIS in Raqqa is already setting the stage for a new round of conflict and instability in Syria's long civil war. Fleeing ISIS fighters are already regrouping in remote areas, rearming with the help of desert smugglers. The Syrian government is expected to return its military attention to the Syrian rebels, intensifying the kind of clash that has led to mass civilian casualties.

SOURCE: 19 October 2017, [New York Times](#)

(U) South Korea – Security Researchers Spot Emerging New Strain of Malware

(U) Seoul – A new form of ransomware is being distributed via the same method as one of the most successful families of file-locking malware, and may represent a new evolution of the tactic. Launched by malvertising attacks on compromised websites, the new ransomware is currently designed in such a way it only infects victims in South Korea. The ransomware is being delivered via the Magnitude exploit kit. Upon infection, Magniber victims are presented with a message demanding a Bitcoin ransom in exchange for the 'special software' required for unlocking the encrypted files.

SOURCE: 19 October 2017, [ZDNet](#)

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